

# Jeff M. Sands

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## PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

### **Manager, Federal Government and Industry Relations, Syngenta, Washington, DC 2015-2017**

- Drive federal policy that facilitates grower choice and adoption of biotechnology and crop protection tools that allows them to maximize production while preserving valuable natural resources on their operations
- Design and execute Capitol Hill strategy to preserve Syngenta freedom to operate during ChemChina acquisition and time of heightened anti-trust concern from legislators and external stakeholders
- Represent Syngenta and personal interests on various boards, steering committees, and issue-based coalitions such as the Agricultural Biotechnology Alliance, Agricultural Retailers Association, and the National Cotton Council
- Engage with Syngenta business unit heads and outside stakeholders to ensure business focus of policy pursuits such as Farm Bill, FIFRA, PRIA, USDA PART 340, and GM Disclosure
- Correspond with members of the press to communicate Syngenta perspective on pending/passed legislation and agency activity
- **Director, SyngentaPAC , \$250,000 per cycle** lead and coordinate Syngenta political strategy including budgeting for candidate support, communications, grassroots, and hosting and attending events

### **Director of Public Policy, Agricultural Retailers Association, Washington, DC 2012-2015**

- Represent 10,000 plus individuals in the agricultural retail industry on their policy concerns relating to USDA farm programs, Precision Agriculture including UAV usage, tax, trade, financial services, conservation, energy, rural development and environmental policy
- Work to build personal relationships with Members of Congress, staff, and agency officials in helping to continually improve association influence
- Engage and support to state agricultural retail associations representing similar interests across the country
- Contribute written legislative perspectives for ARA bi-monthly newsletter, website policy updates, and various national publications
- Coordinate issue briefings and accompany membership on meetings with legislators, staff, and agency officials during fly-ins and other DC based activities
- Design and implement ARAPAC strategy including but not limited to: contributions, planning and attending events, co-creation of the ARAPAC's Chairman's Club, and planning of the ARAPAC Golf Tournament

### **Agricultural Assistant, Congressman Tom Marino, US House of Representatives, Washington, DC 2011-2012**

- Assisted in position development on legislation regarding Agriculture, Homeland Security, and Ways and Means issues
- Gathered and organized appropriate information and attended committee meetings and hearings with Member
- Traveled to the Congressional District to speak with constituents on behalf of member concerning proposed agricultural legislation namely dairy policy and Farm Bill
- Participated in meetings with private and public sector entities on behalf of Representative to hear and collect constituent concerns

## EDUCATION

**Valdosta State University, Masters in Public Administration**

*December 2011*

**Valdosta State University, B.F.A Organizational Communication**

*May 2009*

**Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College A.A.S.-Environmental Horticulture**

*May 2006*

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

- President, Agribusiness Club of Washington, DC
- Chairman, Federal Government Relations Working Group, BIO
- Member, Steering Committee of Marino for Congress (PA-10)
- Director, Agricultural Retailers Association and National Ag Aviation Association Board